



## Eureka School District

### Overview

When it comes to the types of skills and knowledge that employers feel are most important to workplace success, large majorities of employers do NOT feel that recent school and college graduates are well prepared. This is particularly the case for applying knowledge and skills in real-world settings, critical thinking skills, and written and oral communication skills within the workforce setting.

The Lincoln County School of Innovation will help ensure students that students not only receive initial training and certification to kick start career endeavors but that the students are better prepared to enter the workforce with the requisite knowledge, skills, abilities required to succeed in the workforce. Partnerships among districts, educational institutions, businesses, governmental entities, and employers can assist in ensuring that our students are sufficiently prepared to meet the challenges and opportunities they face in the workplace.

### Goals

1. Provide innovative workforce training and experience to enhance Lincoln County students success and career opportunities.
2. Ensure partnerships provide successful training for student successes.

### Specifications

Libby, Troy, and Eureka School Districts will share resources, funding, and goal-setting to provide innovative educational opportunities for their students.

### Desired Opportunities

Automotive (Electronics, car maintenance, engine repair)  
Welding Tier I Certification  
Healthcare (CNA & EMS)  
Computer Science (GIS, GPS, Repair. Software)  
Transportation (CDL licensure)  
Business and Finances (Accounting, bookkeeping)

# Lincoln County Charter School of Innovation Application Content

## I. Executive Summary

Lincoln County Charter of Innovation will serve qualified Junior and senior students in Lincoln County (Libby, Troy, and Eureka Schools). The program will serve 30-100 students who are interested in a career pathway program. Participating students will receive instruction at various locations based upon program needs. For example, Libby High School offers a large automotive facility for the technical experience; however, the technical writing and math may be offered at student's school location. Classroom size will average at 16 students per instructor. Course offerings will be determined by student interest, job/career pathway opportunities, and facilities. Scheduling will be offered through block scheduling and math and English requirements will be tailored through technical coursework in alliance with the Montana Content Standards.

The vision of the Lincoln County Charter School of Innovation program is to better prepare all students in Lincoln County to be college and career ready. The mission of the Lincoln County Charter School of Innovation program will be to ensure career pathways with hands-on technical experience and advance opportunities to participating juniors and seniors.

Lincoln County School Districts, businesses, post-secondary education, and other pertinent entities will collaborate to offer hands-on, career focused, educational opportunities for students in Libby, Troy, and Eureka. The current programs offered will be automotive, welding, transportation, healthcare, business and finance, and computer science. The program will allow us to offer opportunities at a county level versus district level, which not only gives us better access to facilities and funding, but this justifies participation numbers. Libby School District has the benefit of Lincoln County Community College being located close by, as well as additional businesses such as Cabinet Peak Medical Facility and the Northwest Community Health Center.

In collaboration with other entities such as Hecla Mining, we are ensuring students are better prepared to enter a productive workforce within our region. The Lincoln County Charter School of Innovation will provide technical experiences that will engage a variety of non-four year degree seeking students.

Due to Lincoln County's high unemployment rate, high poverty demographics, and low college bound population, this charter opportunity will provide additional career support for our at-risk population of students.

## II. Accreditation Standard

*MT Standards Accreditation 10.55.604 (11)(a)*



A school district may apply to the Board of Public Education through the Superintendent of Public Instruction to create a charter school.

(a) A charter school must provide an education that meets or exceeds the requirements of the Montana Constitution, state law, and school accreditation standards.

#### ***LPS Board Policy #1100***

**Organization** The legal name of this District is Libby School District No. 4, Lincoln County, State of Montana. The District is classified as a class one district and is operated according to the laws and regulations pertaining to a class one district. In order to achieve its primary goal of providing each child with the necessary skills and attitudes to become effective citizens, the Board shall exercise the full authority granted to it by the laws of the state. Its legal powers, duties and responsibilities are derived from the Montana Constitution and state statutes and regulations. Sources such as the school laws of Montana, and the administrative rules of the Board of Public Education and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction delineate the legal powers, duties and responsibilities of the Board.

### **III. Governance**

#### ***MT Standards Accreditation 10.55.604 (11)(d)(i)***

A school district may apply to the Board of Public Education through the Superintendent of Public Instruction to create a charter school.

(d) To be proposed by a school district and approved by the Board of Public Education, a charter school shall, at a minimum, guarantee the following:

(i) school district governance and control;

#### ***LPS Board Policy #1000***

**Legal Status and Operation** The Board of Trustees of the Libby School District No. 4 is the governmental entity established by the State of Montana to plan and direct all aspects of the District's operations to the end that students shall have ample opportunity to achieve their individual and collective learning needs.

The policies of the Board define the organization of the Board and the manner of conducting its official business. The Board's operating policies are those that the Board adopts from time to time to facilitate the performance of its responsibilities.

### **IV. Enrollment Policy/Procedures**

#### ***MT Standards Accreditation 10.55.604 (11)(d)(ii)***

A school district may apply to the Board of Public Education through the Superintendent of Public Instruction to create a charter school.

(d) To be proposed by a school district and approved by the Board of Public Education, a charter school shall, at a minimum, guarantee the following:

(ii) unrestricted, open student access;

## ***LPS Board Policy #3110***

### School Entrance

The District requires that a student's parents, legal guardian, or legal custodian present proof of identity of the child

1 to the school within forty (40) days of enrollment, as well as proof of residence in the District. Students who are not residents of the District may apply for admission pursuant to Policy 3141. Homeless students shall be admitted pursuant to state and federal law, and Policy 3125.

2. To be admitted to District schools, in accordance with the Montana Immunization Law, a child must have been immunized against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, rubella, mumps, and measles (except that pertussis vaccination is not required for children seven (7) years or older). Immunizations may not be required if a child qualifies for conditional attendance or an exemption is filed as provided by Montana law.

### Secondary Grades (9-12)

Credit Transfer: A transfer of credits from any secondary school is subject to a satisfactory examination of the following:

1. Appropriate certificates of school accreditation;
2. Length of course, school day, and school year;
3. Content of applicable courses;
4. School building as it relates to credit earned (i.e., lab areas for appropriate science or vocational instruction);
5. Appropriate evaluation of student performance leading toward credit issuance.

The District will follow Montana Accreditation Rules and Standards, along with local alternate procedures for earning credit, in reviewing requests for transfer of credits. High school principals have authority for approving credit transfers, subject to review by the Superintendent or the Board.

## ***LPS Board Policy #3110***

### Placement

The District goal is to place students at levels and in settings that will increase the probability of student success. Developmental testing, together with other relevant criteria, including but not limited to health, maturity, emotional stability, and developmental disabilities, may be considered in the placement of all students. Final disposition of all placement decisions rests with the principal, subject to review by the Superintendent or the Board.

## **V. Facilities**

***MT Standards Accreditation 10.55.604 (11)(d)(iii)***

A school district may apply to the Board of Public Education through the Superintendent of Public Instruction to create a charter school.

(d) To be proposed by a school district and approved by the Board of Public Education, a charter school shall, at a minimum, guarantee the following:

(iii) compliance with all health and safety laws;

#### ***LPS Board Policy # 9311***

Safety Program The Board acknowledges the importance of safety for students, staff and others having business with the District. Safety education, accident prevention and proper supervision are important as protective measures and also OSHA means to promote a culture of safety awareness. The Board directs the formation of a District Safety Committee comprised of employer and employee representatives as outlined in the Montana Safety Culture Act. The Board directs the development of an Exposure Control Plan for employees to eliminate or minimize work-related exposure to blood borne pathogens, particularly Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Hepatitis B Virus (HBV). The District will participate in the prosecution of any individual(s) who may disturb any school or school meetings, insult or abuse any school employee or student during the course of the school/work day, or otherwise violate the laws of the State of Montana regarding school disturbance or individual protection for school employees or students. It shall be the Superintendent's responsibility to execute this program. The Superintendent may delegate this responsibility to other staff members.

## **VI. Employees**

#### ***MT Standards Accreditation 10.55.604 (11)(d)(iv) and (v)***

A school district may apply to the Board of Public Education through the Superintendent of Public Instruction to create a charter school.

(d) To be proposed by a school district and approved by the Board of Public Education, a charter school shall, at a minimum, guarantee the following:

(iv) teacher licensure and endorsement to the same extent as required or provided by state law or accreditation standards;

(v) employee collective bargaining to the same extent as required or provided by state law;

#### ***LPS Board Policy #5120***

##### Certification

The District requires its' contracted certified staff to hold valid Montana teacher or specialist certificates endorsed for the roles and responsibilities for which they are employed. Failure to meet this requirement shall be just cause for termination of employment. No salary warrants may be issued to a staff member, unless a valid certificate for the role to which the teacher has been assigned has been registered with the county superintendent within sixty (60) calendar days after a term of service begins. Every teacher and



administrator under contract must bring their current, valid certificate to the personnel office at the time of initial employment, as well as at the time of each renewal of certification.

The personnel office will register all certificates, noting class and endorsement of certificates, and will update permanent records as necessary. The personnel office also will retain a copy of each valid certificate of a contracted certified employee in that employee's personnel file.

## VII. Evidence of Support

### *MT Standards Accreditation 10.55.604 (11)(d)(vi)*

A school district may apply to the Board of Public Education through the Superintendent of Public Instruction to create a charter school.

(d) To be proposed by a school district and approved by the Board of Public Education, a charter school shall, at a minimum, guarantee the following:

(vi) a plan for consideration of input by community members and staff as to formation and implementation issues. Consideration of input may be identified by formation of advisory committees involving staff and/or community members, conduct of a properly noticed public meeting for purposes of comment on the formation or operation of the charter school, or any other reasonable means that result in an opportunity for input by staff and community members prior to a decision of significant interest to the public regarding the formation or operation of the charter school.

### *LPS Board Policy #4000*

#### Goals

The educational process will strive to foster cooperation among students, community, government, business and schools by:

- A. Soliciting public input before appropriate educational decisions are made;
- B. Recognizing that the educational opportunities are to be found in many segments of our community; and
- C. Requesting community involvement in the evaluation of programs.


The schools will strive to create an atmosphere of mutual respect and responsibility for learning among teachers, students and parents by:

- A. Keeping one another informed as to students' progress; and
- B. Involving, through child study teams and other conferences, parents, and when appropriate, students in educational decisions.

## VIII. Educational Program

Lincoln County Charter of Innovation will create a sustainable program for Libby, Troy, and Eureka School Districts to share resources, funding, and goal-setting to provide innovative educational opportunities for their students. Educational opportunities will consist of the following:

Automotive (Electronics, car maintenance, engine repair)  
 Welding Tier I Certification  
 Healthcare (CNA & EMS)



Computer Science (GIS, GPS, Repair, Software)  
Transportation (CDL licensure)  
Business and Finances (Accounting, bookkeeping)

## IX. Finance

Districts will pro-rate ANB funds for participating students if students are located at a hosted district. Otherwise, ANB funds will remain within participating student's school. An interdistrict agreement will read as follows:

## X. Transportation and Food Service

Breakfast and lunch will be offered to all students through the Libby Public Schools Meal program.

.....



## FUNDING

LINCOLN COUNTY VOCATIONAL SCHOOL OF INNOVATION has been awarded \$20,000 from the Dennis & Phyllis Washington Foundation.

We are currently working on other funding opportunities through various organizations including:

- Carl Perkins Vocational Training Funds
- Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP)
- Montana Department of Labor and Industry
- Lincoln County Community Development
- Flathead Valley Community College
- Wal-Mart
- Flathead Electric
- Plum Creek
- Local businesses

## FUTURE PLANS & EXPANSION

LINCOLN COUNTY VOCATIONAL SCHOOL OF INNOVATION is considering offering a variety of learning opportunities as it expands. Specific career paths in electronics, engine mechanics, construction, welding, plumbing, health care, business, computer science, and more are found in many vocational schools. Successfully completed these programs students are ready to jump into an entry-level job.

CITY OF LIBBY



LIBBY DAM  
US Army Corps  
of Engineers



Timberline Auto Center, Inc.



We are developing partnerships with the following business, industry and community agencies:

## PARTNERSHIPS

*Classes  
start  
fall 2016*

# LINCOLN COUNTY

## VOCATIONAL SCHOOL OF INNOVATION



# LINCOLN COUNTY VOCATIONAL SCHOOL OF INNOVATION

## BACKGROUND

When it comes to the types of skills and knowledge that employers feel are most important to workplace success, large majorities of employers do not feel that recent school and college graduates are well prepared. This is particularly the case for applying knowledge and skills in real-world settings, critical thinking skills, and written and oral communication skills within the workforce setting. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, tangible skills and industry qualifications are what get most people in the door. Those skills are often most easily gained by attending schools that specialize in career, technical, vocational, or trade school education. According to the Association for Career & Technical Education, about six out of every ten college students today are involved in technical or career-oriented programs. The U.S. Department of Education states that almost 80 percent of all college-level credentials below a bachelor's degree are awarded for specific vocational fields.

## HOW & WHY

Pooling resources from Lincoln County's three school districts, Eureka, Libby and Troy, the LINCOLN COUNTY VOCATIONAL SCHOOL OF INNOVATION is being created to provide more and better vocational education opportunities to students in the county. Because vocational programs are costly to operate and often have fluctuating enrollments, bringing students together will enable the districts to offer more courses, better equipping students with the skills needed to enter an increasingly competitive workforce. Libby, Troy, and Eureka School Districts will share resources, funding, and objectives to provide innovative educational opportunities for their students.

## MISSION

LINCOLN COUNTY VOCATIONAL SCHOOL OF INNOVATION prepares students for the workforce and/or post-secondary education through a RIGOROUS SPECIALIZED CURRICULUM, COMMUNITY-BASED PARTNERSHIPS, and FIELD-BASED EXPERIENCES, inspiring students to be lifelong learners and community builders.

## PROGRAM STRUCTURE & OUTLINE

- ☑ Committed students can get a jump on earning their trade school diplomas by starting during their high school junior or senior year.
- ☑ Students must go through an application process to be considered for enrollment.
- ☑ The first year, as the school is getting started, welding and automotive technology courses will be offered.
- ☑ Classes will be scheduled in the morning from 8:00-11:30 a.m. Students will then return to their respective schools to take their core classes.

## OBJECTIVES

- ☑ Provide quality and intensive vocational skills training to high school students.
- ☑ Equip student with competencies required in each course or qualification.
- ☑ Provide innovative workforce training and experience to enhance Lincoln County students success and career opportunities.
- ☑ Ensure partnerships provide successful training for student successes.
- ☑ Strengthen Lincoln County by training students for employment in the region.